This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A method for treating an infection in a patient, comprising orally administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of sialyzed carbohydrates of formula I:

$$[Sia\alpha 2\text{-}3\text{—}Gal\text{—}HexNac\text{—}Hex\text{—}C\text{—}]_n\text{—}V \qquad (I)$$

wherein

Sia means a sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative in an α 2-3 bond,

Gal means a galactose-monosaccharide unit,

HexNac means an N-acetylated galactosamine-monosaccharide unit or glucosamine-monosaccharide unit (GalNAc or GlcNAc),

Hex means a galactose-monosaccharide unit or glucose-monosaccharide unit (Gal or Glc),

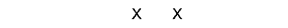
C represents HexNac or Hex or is absent,

n represents 1 to 50,

wherein X is a first sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative thereof, optionally having a second sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative bound to the first sialic acid or O-acetyl sialic acid derivative in an α 2-3 bond, a phosphate group, a sulphate group, carboxyl group, or a monosaccharide having a phosphate group, sulphate group or carboxyl group,

wherein only one of the residues X is present,

V is a) OH when n represents 1, b) a carbohydrate residue or c) a connecting point on a carrier T, with the proviso that when V represents b) a carbohydrate residue being a monosaccharide residue, an oligosaccharide residue or a polysaccharide residue or c) a carrier T, n means the number of the carbohydrate units of formula II that are each directly bound to this b) carbohydrate residue or c) carrier, and formula II is as follows:



(II)

~~wherein X is a first sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative thereof, optionally having a second sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative bound to the first sialic acid or O-acetyl sialic acid derivative in an α-2-3 bond, a phosphate group, a sulphate group, carboxyl group, or a monosaccharide having a phosphate group, sulphate group or carboxyl group,~~

~~wherein only one of the residues X is present,~~

~~wherein n is 1 to 50,~~ and

wherein the sialyzed carbohydrate are in a form so that sia α 2-3 residues of said sialyzed carbohydrates bind to pathogens.

33. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 32, wherein one of the following criteria i) through ~~[[iii)]]~~ ii) are met:

i) Sia represents acetyl neuraminic acid (NeuAc) or N-glycolyl neuraminic acid (NeuGc), and

ii) the carrier T is selected from the group consisting of a peptide, a protein, a polymer, and a biopolymer~~, and~~

~~iii) the carbohydrate residue constituting residue V is a monosaccharide residue, an oligosaccharide residue or a polysaccharide residue~~.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein the carbohydrates of formula I are selected from the group consisting of disialyl-lacto-N-tetraose (DS-LNT), disialyl-lacto-N-neo-tetraose (DS-LNnT), glycomacropeptide (GMP), ganglioside G_{D1a}, ganglioside G_{T1b} and ganglioside G_{T1c}.

35. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein T is a glycolipid or ganglioside.

36. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein the carbohydrate or carbohydrates of formula I are administered in an amount of 1 mg per kg of body weight of said patient.

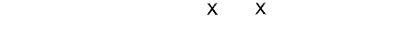
37. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein the patient has an infection of the gastrointestinal tract, blood system, respiratory passage, urogenital tract, or nasopharynx.

38. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein the sialyzed carbohydrates are administered in the form of a fluid, pharmaceutical, dietetic, or food composition that is not human milk.

39-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the patient has an infection of the gastrointestinal tract and the patient is human.

42. (Currently Amended) A ~~pharmacetical~~ pharmaceutical, a food or a dietitic composition composition in a form for oral administration comprising a sialyzed carbohydrate of formula I:



$$[Sia\alpha 2\text{-}3\text{—}Gal\text{—}HexNac\text{—}Hex\text{—}C\text{—}]_n\text{—}V \qquad (I)$$

wherein Sia means a sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative in an α2-3 bond,

Gal means a galactose-monosaccharide unit,

HexNac means an N-acetylated galactosamine-monosaccharide unit or glucosamine-monosaccharide unit (GalNAc or GlcNAc),

Hex means a galactose-monosaccharide unit or glucose-monosaccharide unit (Gal or Glc),

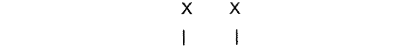
C represents HexNac or Hex or is absent,

n represents 1 to 50,

wherein X is a first sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative thereof, optionally having a second sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative bound to the first sialic acid or O-acetyl sialic acid derivative in an α 2-3 bond, a phosphate group, a sulphate group, carboxyl group, or a monosaccharide having a phosphate group, sulphate group or carboxyl group,

wherein only one of the residues X is present,

V represents a) OH, b) a carbohydrate residue or c) a connecting point on a carrier T, with the proviso that, if V represents a) OH, n represents 1, and, if V represents a b) carbohydrate residue or a carrier T, n means the number of the carbohydrate units that are each directly bound to this b) carbohydrate residue being a monosaccharide residue, an oligosaccharide residue or a polysaccharide residue or c) carrier and wherein formula I has at least one carbohydrate unit of formula II:



$$[Sia\alpha 2\text{-}3\text{—}Gal\text{—}HexNac\text{—}Hex\text{—}C\text{—}]_n\text{—} \qquad (II)$$

~~wherein X is a first sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative thereof, optionally having a second sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative bound to the first sialic acid or O-acetyl sialic acid derivative in an α 2-3 bond, a phosphate group, a sulphate group, carboxyl group, or a monosaccharide having a phosphate group, sulphate group or carboxyl group,~~

~~wherein only one of the residues X is present,~~

~~wherein n is 1 to 50,~~ and

wherein the sialyzed carbohydrate are in a form so that sia α 2-3 residues of said sialyzed carbohydrates bind to pathogens.

43. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim [[41]] 42, further comprising an auxiliary agent, diluent, moisturizing agent, thickening agent, flavoring agent, sweetening agent, or carrier.

44. (Currently Amended) ~~A food or dietetic~~ The composition ~~comprising a sialyzed carbohydrate~~ according to claim 42, wherein the sialyzed ~~carbohydrate comprises a first carbohydrate~~ carbohydrates of formula I are selected from the group consisting of disialyl-lacto-N-tetraose (DS-LNT), disialyl-lacto-N-neo-tetraose (DS-LNnT), glycomacropeptide (GMP), ganglioside G_{D1a}, ganglioside G_{T1b} and ganglioside G_{T1c}~~; and wherein DS-LNnT, GMP, ganglioside G_{D1a}, ganglioside G_{T1b}, and ganglioside G_{T1c} are bound to a carbohydrate of formula (II)~~:

~~—X——X—~~

~~————————————|———|————————~~

~~————————[Siaα2-3-Gal-HexNac-Hex-C-]$_n$————————(II)~~

~~wherein X is NeuAc or NeuGc;~~

~~wherein only one of the residues X is present,~~

~~wherein n is 1 to 50, and~~

~~wherein the sialyzed carbohydrate are in a form so that siaα2-3 residues present in the sialzyed carbohydrate bind to bacterial adhesins upon administration of the composition to a human or animal patient~~.

45. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim [[44]] 42, wherein a sialic acid or an O-acetyl sialic acid derivative is bound to the NeuAc or NeuGc.

46. (Currently Amended The composition according to claim [[44]] 42, wherein a phosphate group, sulphate group or carboxyl group is bound to the NeuAc or NeuGc.

47-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim [[44]] 42, wherein the composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of a beverage, baby formula, food supplement, infant formula, milk product, chocolate, cheese, sausage, meat product, anabolic food, and probe tube food.

51. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a bacterial infection in a patient, comprising orally administering an effective amount of the composition according to claim [[44]] 42 to said patient.

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[53]] 32, wherein the patient is a pregnant women, an infant, debilitated person, or an elderly person.